

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-33 remain pending and are unchanged by this preliminary amendment.

The specification of the instant application has been amended by the instant preliminary amendment to include additional information regarding Federal sponsorship.

Figures 38A and 38B have been amended to conform to the specification, and in particular ¶[0260] thereof. No new matter has been added to the specification by virtue of these drawing amendments.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Kent J. Tobin
Reg. No. 39,496

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
KJT:kjt:ejt
60353512 v1

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 38A and 38B. This sheet, which includes Figs. 38A and 38B, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 38A and 38B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

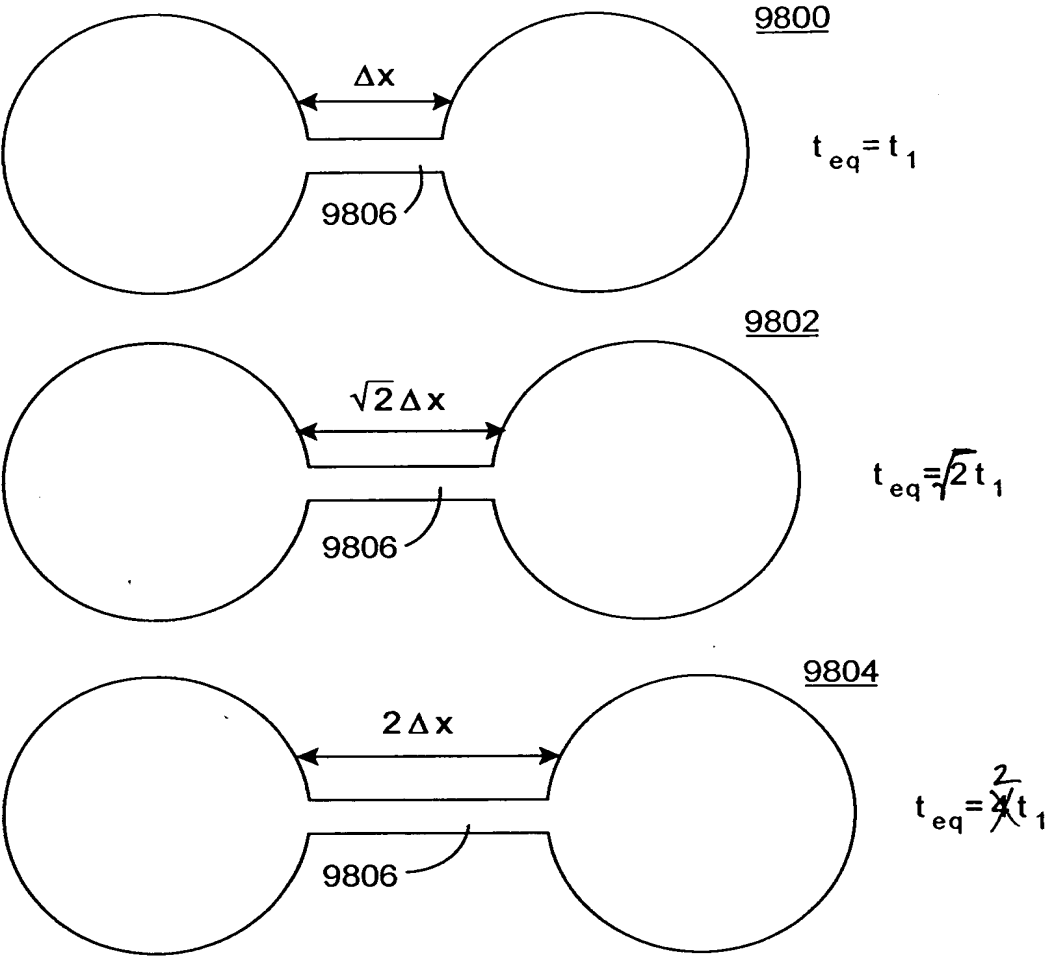


FIG. 38A

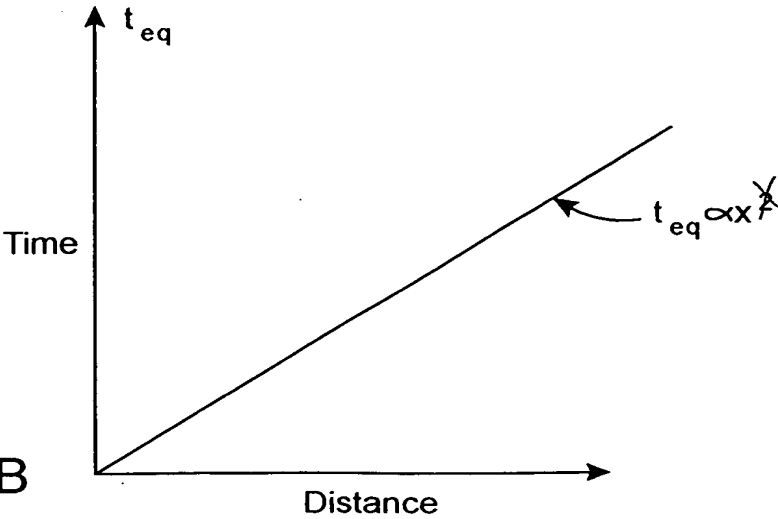


FIG. 38B